

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE

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S E C R E T USNATO 0580

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: AIR MANPOWER: SPC DISCUSSION FEBRUARY 3

REF: STATE 11498

SUMMARY: SPC CONSIDERED U.S. AIR MANPOWER PROPOSAL AGAIN ON FEBRUARY 3. FRG REP QUESTIONED ADVISABILITY OF ALLIES MAKING AN IMPORTANT NEW OFFER TO THE OTHER SIDE, AT A TIME WHEN THE OTHER SIDE WOULD NOT NEGOTIATE SERIOUSLY ON IT. U.S. REP REVIEWED THE NEED FOR THE ALLIES NOT TO ASSUME THAT PROGRESS IS IMPOSSIBLE AT THIS TIME, BUT TO CONTINUE TO DEVELOP THEIR NEGOTIATING POSITION IN ORDER TO ADVANCE ALLIED NEGOTIATING OBJECTIVES. U.S. REP ALSO MADE GENERAL REVIEW OF ADVANTAGES OF U.S. PROPOSAL. END SUMMARY

1. FRG REP (HOYNCK) SAID HIS AUTHORITIES DO NOT CONSIDER THAT THE ALLIES ARE UNDER ANY TIME PRESSURE TO INCLUDE AIR MANPOWER
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IN THE NEGOTIATION. THEY BELIEVE THAT VERY CAREFUL STUDY OF THE U.S. PROPOSAL IS NECESSARY. FOR THIS, THEY NEED ANSWERS TO THE LONG LIST OF MILITARY /TECHNICAL QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY THE FRG AND OTHER ALLIES IN THE MBFR WORKING GROUP. THE FRG SEES NO

NEED FOR THE ALLIES TO PUT FORWARD TO THE OTHER SIDE AT THIS TIME AN OFFER BASED ON THE U.S. PROPOSAL. IF THE ALLIES MADE SUCH AN IMPORTANT MOVE NOW, THE OTHER SIDE WOULD NOT NEGOTIATE SERIOUSLY ON IT, BUT WOULD SIMPLY TAKE IT FOR GRANTED THAT THE ALLIES HAD AGREED TO INCLUDE AIR IN THE NEGOTIATION. THE OTHER SIDE WOULD THEN CONCENTRATE ON OTHER THINGS OF MORE IMMEDIATE INTEREST TO IT. FRG WOULD LIKE TO CONCENTRATE SIMPLY ON INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER IN THE COMMON CEILING, WITHOUT REDUCTIONS.

2. U.S. REP (MOORE) SAID THAT THE U.S. MISSION HAD JUST RECEIVED WASHINGTON RESPONSES TO THE REMAINING QUESTIONS SUBMITTED IN THE WG, AND WAS TRANSMITTING THESE RESPONSES TO THE WG. HE SAID THAT THE U.S. HAD SUBMITTED THESE RESPONSES WITH A VIEW TOWARD FURTHERING ALLIED STUDY ON THIS ISSUE, AND HE HOPED THAT THE RESPONSES WOULD NOW ENABLE THE WG TO COMPLETE ITS STUDY ON THE MILITARY IMPLICATIONS OF THE U.S. PROPOSAL.

3. U.S. REP THEN ADDRESSED THE FRG REP'S STATEMENT ON THE ADVISABILITY OF MAKING AN AIR MANPOWER OFFER TO THE OTHER SIDE AT THIS TIME. HE SAID THAT THE FRG REP'S STATEMENT ASSUMED THAT NO PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATION WAS POSSIBLE AT THIS TIME. HE NOTED THE ALLIED INTEREST IN PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATION, BEGINNING WITH SOVIET WITHDRAWAL IN PHASE I OF A TANK ARMY. U.S. REP AGAIN DREW ON PARA 2B, REFTEL, CONCERNING SOVIET INTEREST IN PROGRESS IN THE NEGOTIATION IN 1975. HE STRESSED THAT IT WAS IN THE ALLIES' INTEREST NOT TO ASSUME THAT NO PROGRESS IS POSSIBLE, BUT TO CONTINUE TO DEVELOP THEIR NEGOTIATING POSITION IN ORDER TO ADVANCE ALLIED NEGOTIATING OBJECTIVES. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE ALLIED OFFER ON AIR MANPOWER, LIKE OTHER ALLIED OFFERS TO THE EAST, WOULD BE CONDITIONED TO PREVENT THE OTHER SIDE FROM SIMPLY "POCKETING" THE OFFER. THE ALLIES WOULD SIMPLY NOT PERMIT THE OTHER SIDE TO "POCKET" AIR MANPOWER.

4. CANADIAN REP (ROY) SAID ON A PERSONAL BASIS THAT HE CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT THE OTHER SIDE WILL NOT NEGOTIATE SERIOUSLY AT THIS TIME, AND THAT THE SOVIETS ARE NOT INTERESTED IN PROGRESS
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IN THE NEGOTIATION NOW. HE NOTED THE STATEMENTS OF SOVIET LEADERS TO THE EFFECT THAT CONCLUSION OF CSCE WOULD ASSIST IN MBFR NEGOTIATIONS. U.S. REP OBSERVED THAT THESE STATEMENTS DID NOT EXCLUDE PROGRESS IN MBFR PRIOR TO CONCLUSION OF CSCE. HE NOTED THAT THESE STATEMENTS WERE MADE AT A TIME WHEN CSCE APPEARED DEADLOCKED, BUT CSCE HAD MADE MORE PROGRESS LATELY. HE STRESSED THAT ONE COULD NOT PROVE THAT THE OTHER SIDE WAS NOT READY TO NEGOTIATE SERIOUSLY AT THIS TIME. THE ALLIES IN THEIR OWN INTEREST SHOULD NOT ASSUME THAT NO PROGRESS IS POSSIBLE.

5. IN THE ABSENCE OF OTHER COMMENTS BY ALLIED DELEGATIONS, U.S. REP REVIEWED THE ADVANTAGES OF THE U.S. PROPOSAL, ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES. THE U.S. PROPOSAL WOULD MEET EASTERN

CONCERN RE INCLUSION OF AIR IN THE NEGOTIATION AT NO REAL COST TO THE ALLIES. IT WOULD PLACE A NECESSARY LIMITATION ON EASTERN AIR MANPOWER. THE FOCUS ON GROUND FORCES WOULD REMAIN. INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER REDUCTIONS IS VOLUNTARY AND SETS NO OTHER PRECEDENT FOR PHASE II.

6. SPC NEXT MEETS ON AIR MANPOWER FEBRUARY 6.

7. ACTION REQUESTED: ONE RECURRING ALLIED CONCERN RE AIR MANPOWER IS THAT THE OTHER SIDE IS NOT INTERESTED IN PROGRESS IN MBFR NOW, AND THAT THE ALLIES WOULD IN SOME WAY "WASTE" AN IMPORTANT NEW OFFER, E.G. AIR MANPOWER, IF THEY MADE SUCH AN OFFER TO THE OTHER SIDE AT THIS TIME. THIS KIND OF THINKING IS RELEVANT NOT ONLY TO AIR MANPOWER BUT TO OTHER IMPORTANT OFFERS THE ALLIES MAY EVENTUALLY WISH TO MAKE, E.G. OPTION III. MISSION BELIEVES FURTHER WASHINGTON GUIDANCE ON THIS POINT WOULD BE USEFUL.
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